



Informational Notes for First Responders and Officials

Bulletin #101 – August 7, 2006
SEMA's Homepage: sema.dps.mo.gov

Missouri Receives Emergency Disaster Declaration for July 19 Storms

Missouri received an Expedited Emergency Presidential Disaster Declaration for assistance to help local communities recover from the recent storm damages July 19-21, 2006, power outages and heat related issues for Dent, Iron, Jefferson, St Charles, Washington, St Louis and the City of St. Louis. SEMA held a series of public officials briefings for the counties and the City of St. Louis.

Homeland Security Planning Class for Local Governments, August 22-24

SEMA is offering *Homeland Security Planning for Local Governments*, August 22-24, at the Drury Inn, Sikeston. Send completed application to: Tina Brown, Assistant State Training Officer P.O. Box 116, Jefferson City, MO 65102, Phone: (573) 526-9215, Fax: (573) 634-7966, or fill out an application online at <http://training.dps.mo.gov> by August 15.

Participants will learn how to evaluate, revise, or develop a homeland security appendix to their jurisdictions existing Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Key issues addressed are vulnerability analysis, command and control for homeland security events. This course builds on existing emergency response systems addressed in the local EOP. Participants must bring a current copy of their EOP and a map of their jurisdiction to the training. This course supplements EMI's Emergency Planning Workshop.

2006 State LEPC Conference Set for September 21-22, Springfield

The Missouri Emergency Response Commission (MERC) and the Springfield/Greene County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) are jointly sponsoring the 2006 State LEPC conference, September 21-22, in Springfield.

Keynote speakers are Dr. Jerry Jaax (Emergency Preparedness, Response and Bioterrorism), and Mary Fran Ernst (Are You Sure It's A Natural Death?). There will be workshops on Communication/Public Relations, Health & Trauma, Homeland Security/Terrorism, and OSHA/Safety. A CAMEO Training Session will also be offered. Registration is \$25 before August 1 or \$100 after August 1. For more information contact Carolyn Fink at Springfield/Greene County EMA (417) 869-6040.

SEMA's Training Schedule Posted to Homepage

Be sure to check SEMA's new training schedule often! New classes may be added throughout the year. Here is the link: <http://training.dps.mo.gov/sematraining.nsf/TrainingSchedule?OpenForm>

SEMA Plans To Start Reservist Program

By Chuck May, Planning and Disaster Recovery Branch Chief

SEMA is in the early stages of developing a Missouri Emergency Management Reservist Program. The purpose of this program will be to establish a cadre of trained individuals to augment State staff and assist affected local jurisdictions with response and recovery efforts during catastrophic disasters. Types of work would include, but are not limited to, staffing the State Emergency Operations Center (or alternate), conducting damage assessments, staffing Disaster Recovery Centers, staffing the Joint Field Office, assisting with various response and recovery efforts, etc.

The specifics for this program have not been developed yet. SEMA will email the information to EMDs to determine the level of interest in such a program. If you are interested in participating in the Reservist Program, please contact your SEMA Area Coordinator.

HDER Equipment Program -- Up and Running

The **Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse (HDER)** Program is available to provide surplus radiological detection instrumentation and other equipment, as well as training and long-term technical support, to emergency responder agencies to enhance their homeland security preparedness capabilities. This grant is open to all first responders.

The website to access the list of equipment is <http://www.rkb.mipt.org/>. An account is needed to obtain the list of equipment.

The fiscal year begins in October and the equipment is ordered in the last month of the quarter. First quarter (Oct 1 - Dec 30) order date is December 1. Second quarter (Jan 1 - Mar 31) order date is March 1. Third quarter (April 1 - June 30) order date is June 1. Fourth quarter (July 1 - September 30) order date is September 1. Please send your list by mail, fax or email, by the date on the table below. Late orders will not be accepted.

Once the items are received by SEMA, you will be contacted to make arrangements for pick up. This is a first come-first serve grant. For more information, contact Brian Ingram, Homeland Security Grant Program Specialist, at SEMA, P. O. Box 116, Jefferson City, MO 65102. His telephone is 573-526-9227, or Fax: 573-526-9262. His email is: Brian.Ingram@sema.dps.mo.gov

Katrina/Rita Evacuees Re-certification

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency's Director of Recovery extends the re-certification deadline for those Katrina/Rita evacuees who have transitioned from the 403 program to the 408 program (i.e., have been previously determined eligible for 408 assistance). For that population of eligible evacuees, the deadline for submitting required re-certification documentation is Oct 31, 2006. Evacuees who submit the required re-certification documentation by that date (Oct 31) will be re-certified until the end of the 18-month housing program, or February 28, 2007. This re-certification deadline will impact Katrina/Rita evacuees living in Missouri.

Missouri Among New USDA Drought Designated States

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) designated seven states (including Missouri) as agriculture disaster for drought, extreme heat, and high winds. All qualified Missouri farm operators are eligible for low-interest emergency (EM) loans from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have until 3/27/2007 to apply for the loans to help cover part of their actual losses. Farm Services Agency (FSA) will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. FSA has a variety of programs available, in addition to the emergency loan program, to help eligible farmers recover from adversity. Please visit DisasterHelp (<https://disasterhelp.gov>) for further information on the list of counties affected in each state and support resources.

New Employees Join SEMA's Homeland Security Branch

By Debbie Rathert, SEMA Homeland Security Branch

With personnel departures in the Homeland Security Branch recently and the departure of the Citizen Council Coordinator, the following names and faces may be new to you.

Brett Hendrix has a Masters in Public Admin and has joined us as a Program Specialist. He will manage the MMRS grants and the Buffer Zone Program, serve as the primary support person to Dee Solindas on matters related to the Urban Areas, and will take on additional organizational assignments as needed. You can reach Brett at 573-526-9188, brett.hendrix@sema.dps.mo.gov.

Brian Ingram has joined us as a Program Specialist primarily stepping in behind Ricky Presberry with LETPP grants and Interoperable Communications grants, the HDER grant, and the CEDAP grant. You can reach Brian at 573-526-9227. brian.ingram@sema.dps.mo.gov.

Matt Nutt is the most recent employee to join our ranks. Matt is going to take on Citizen Council, CERT efforts, and a few other critical assignments. We have moved those efforts to the HS Branch as a natural segue to improve the grants management component of the program. Matt can be reached at 573-526-9223, matthew.nutt@sema.dps.mo.gov.

Ann Harris has been with us this summer filling immediately the void left by Ricky Presberry. However, she returns to the classroom soon. Her last day with us is August 9th. She has been invaluable to the most recent grant processes.

We ask that whenever you receive a communication from one of our staff, you welcome them.

A Word of Caution Regarding Interoperable Communications Awards

By Debbie Rathert, SEMA Homeland Security Branch

This year's awards require the recipients to live within strict guidelines. Those guidelines are spelled out in the Grant Guidance (which you agreed to). A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) was distributed in the previous newsletter and has been placed on SEMA's website for clarification of common issues.

Failure to live by these guidelines will be investigated and may result in full denial of payment as well as penalizing your department's consideration in future grant award processes.

A few examples include, but are not limited to the following:

- Decommissioning of existing narrowband radios. This is NOT allowed. Decommissioning of wideband radios only is permitted.
- Decommissioning personal radios. The radios decommissioned MUST belong to the entity receiving the new radios.
- Conversely, moving decommissioned radios to personal use by firefighters or law enforcement personnel. NO. Your agency's decommissioned radios must be put completely out of use, except perhaps for an affiliated Citizen Council or CERT team (Option 1).

Our grant managers will be closely scrutinizing invoices and decommissioning logs. If you have questions, ask ahead of the process and not later. Again, failure to live by these guidelines will be investigated and may result in full denial of payment as well as penalizing your department's consideration in future grant award processes.

Homeland Security Grant Deadlines Approaching

Reminder that the deadline for spending approved Extension Requests is quickly approaching.

- **FY 03-2 — ends 10/31/2006**
- **FY 04 — ends November 30, 2006.**
- **FY 05 spending is expected to be complete in either January or February 2007. Please check your particular award for the deadline.**

NO additional extension requests will be available on FY 03-2 or FY 04.